

Western Region
Quality Improvement Committee
Minutes
August 10, 2009

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Wendy Bunnell
John Thill
Rebecca Olsen
Matt Dinger
Kelsae Stentzel
John Bonnett
Casey Christopherson
Rosanna Jones
Kevin Jackson
Kristin Lambert
Vicky Proctor
Terri Sawyer
Laura Blanchard
John Moody
Judy Robertson

Welcome by Wendy Bunnell, Chair

QCR RESULTS - Kristin Lambert, Kevin Jackson
Office of Services Review

Kristin Lambert

Kevin Jackson

- Western Region Report given to each committee member
Portions discussed in detail, questions addressed
- Committee members were encouraged to:
 - Read the stories
 - Participate in the QCR- next year.

- Each would be with a certified reviewer; your role would be to observe.
- You would review one case over 2 days. Either Monday and Tuesday or Wednesday and Thursday.
- Many team members will be involved in the review: Bio parent, child, teacher, social worker, doctor, neighbors, extended family, etc.
- The whole picture with DCFS will be reviewed.
- Incredible insight will be gained by participating in the QCR. Each year people from Philadelphia and Virginia express an interest to come to see the work we do.
- Permanency a challenge for all ages. Stability can go the whole spectrum. Some outcomes may be affected because the caseworker has a large case load or they are new to the system. Caseworkers with more time and experience may score higher in all areas.
- With the cut in jobs the case loads will be going up. Western Region has lost 10 full-time positions that will not be replaced. Good news is - they can now hire a new worker if someone leaves.
- Wendy would like to see all committee members go on a QCR by next year and repeat it if you have already done it.

CPS Public awareness

- Members - given handouts they had requested from prior meeting. Will give to clients, friends, family or other professionals.
The Division of Child and Family Services Intake information sheet
"WHEN DOES IT CROSS THAT LINE?"
- **Ways to Create Public Awareness?** Vicki suggested we discuss this with Channel 17, City Beat.

Foster Parent Concern:

- More kids with delinquency problems are being placed in structured homes. These kids are more like JJS kids. Instead of placing them in a group home because of budget cuts they are being placed in structured homes with lower cost.

- Before the placements are made they look at the safety of the kids in the home. In some cases the group home structure is not the best situation compared to our structured homes.
- Is there a way we could be instrumental in getting more support for these structured homes to help the foster parents?
 - Drug testing
 - More respite
 - Trackers like proctor homes
- 52% of the kids to be placed are 14 to 18 years old
Only 25% of the foster parents are willing to take them

The foundation is trying to change that by planting seeds when they meet with prospective foster parents. They discuss the need to take older kids.

Mentor Program

Matt Dinger - The Mentor Program for Older Youth with the Boys and Girls Club.

- Matt wants positive adult connections for these kids.
- Mentors will need to commit to at least one year but would be best if for long term.
- They do activities together as a group, once a month.
- Kids choose their mentor (like speed dating)
- He has currently recruited 24 mentors with the possibility of 6 more.
- He is working with a company right now that will work with the employees. The employee will get paid time-off for their involvement.
- Appointment set with the 7th Day Adventist Church
- Thanks to Wendy and Renee's for helping with the recruiting

Drug Court Video

\$1,500.00 is secured.

- Wendy will meet with Diana Simmons KBYU TV for production. Use of studio?
- Goal to capture the Drug Court vision.
- Sub committee is needed for this project.
- Vicky Proctor will contact - Channel 17 "City Beat". The producers may be willing to help, possibly use their studio or feature Drug Court on City Beat.
- Vicky will e-mail Casey the results of her meeting with City Beat.
- Casey has hooked up with USARA - out of Salt Lake. They offer 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours of training free of charge. Four of the drug court alumni will take the training

Solidify for initial meeting.

- USARA training will be in August.
- Recovery Day in September.

Quarterly Statewide QIC meeting

- December 1 is QIC Summit- great meeting all encourage to attend
- New member handbooks
- Topics we want to present?

Nominations for Child Advocate Award

- Two were submitted this month.
- Committee would like both to receive this month.
- Rebecca will present an award to both nominees.

Next QIC Meeting

- Monday September 14
11:00 to 1:00
DCFS building